



Volume 39

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KDBC ANNUAL CONGRESS IN THE HILLS 17th & 18th MARCH 2018



This is our two-day gala event when we welcome bridge players from all over Australia. They come knowing they will share in the goodwill and hospitality of our members, as well as the ambience of our Club nestled among the trees in the forest at Ledger Rd, Gooseberry Hill

WELCOME TO NEW CLUB MEMBERS – January to March, 2018

KDBC welcomes five new members to our Club.

Linda Barker graduated from the Beginners Class of 2016. She retired from government as a Non-Financial Auditor in 2014 and is finding bridge more challenging than her grandchildren's card games of UNO & Go Fish.



Robert Williamsen, an Alternate member whose home club is Swan Bridge Club, emigrated from Holland in 1974. He is a retired Plumber enjoying life in the hills.

Tom Lemann learnt to play bridge as a 20yr old after breaking both legs in a fall. He played bridge with the WA Youth Team for 10yrs until life became too busy. Tom, an Architect, has included the inspirational Frank Lloyd Wright who designed the famous Guggenheim Museum in New York. Wright completed the project at 92 years of age - but did he play bridge?



Christine Storer an Alternate Member, whose home club is Avon Valley Bridge Club, worked as a Lecturer at Charles

Sturt University in Agricultural Business in Melbourne & is now working at Muresk Institute of Agriculture. She now lives in Meckering on a 385-acre life-style property with husband Graham who also plays bridge.



Bob Steer, an alternate member whose home club is the Swan Bridge Club has been playing

since a teenager. His passion, apart from bridge, is orchids and is monitoring them for the Dept of Parks and Wild Life. Now retired, Bob still has a strong connection with the conservation and study of orchids.



REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

■ Rob McMahon



G'day everyone

With our congress approaching, many of the members are putting in extra effort to ensure our 'home in the forest' is ready for our visitors.

It seems that the number of congresses that provide lunch is diminishing but thanks to our Catering and Functions sub-committee and members who bring food, we continue to display our hills hospitality.

Thanks to our By-laws subcommittee, chaired by John Shinnick, the Club now has a consolidated document of all by-laws and procedures. The Constitution, By-laws and Competition Regulations can be accessed on our website and in hard form at the club. Speaking of our website we have improved the format but are still searching for an 'outstanding' photo for the homepage.

Our Recruitment and Training sub-committee headed by Jenny Tedeschi puts a great deal of time into finding and training new members. This year our training course was cancelled due lack of numbers, even though we advertised more widely.

This year Jenny has arranged to have a bridge playing table in progress at a local shopping centre. Maybe this will get more people interested in our wonderful game.

We are now embarking on a major club improvement programme. We initially had to look at the possibility of moving to larger and more modern premises but that proved fruitless. Now that we are staying we will modernise our facilities which consist of a modular 38-year-old building on crown land. It's a challenging task but the working group is well on the way to creating a friendly comfortable environment. Suggestions are always welcome.

Because we are situated in a fire prone area we must mitigate against the fire risk by continually clearing leaves and dead foliage from the grounds. Our members' average age, as in other clubs, is increasing and we just don't have the same numbers of fit and able members to do the hard yakka. Our shire, sorry City, doesn't like the removal of trees but they insist that we keep the grounds clear. Oh, for a modern fully airconditioned clubrooms in suburbia. Hold on, that is not us is it!

Two of our ladies are turning ninety this year so another excuse for the Catering and Functions committee to again do their stuff

Happy bridging

Rob

KALAMUNDA BRIDGE CLUB RESULTS

Daytime Pairs

Date: Friday 16th February 2018 (3 weeks)

- 1st Stephen Thyer & Joanne Payne
2nd Brian Dexter & Carole Dexter

Restricted Butler Qualifying Pairs

Date: Thursday 15th March 2018

- 1st Wendy Dodd & Sherrill Duncan
2nd Anita Davis & Brian Davison

Congress – Swiss Pairs

Date: Sat 17th March 2018

- 1st Gerry Daly & Viv Woods
2nd Hugh Probert & Steven Rogoysky

Congress – Teams

Date: Sat 18th March 2018

- 1st Nigel Dutton, Marie-France Merven,
Gerry Daly & Viv Woods
2nd David Matthews, David Schokman,
Val Biltoft & Cynthia Belonogoff

The following players achieved an incredible result of over 70% during the last three months and have been listed in the 70% Club.

The 70% Club – February

Sheila Pryce & Gordon Brown 70.1%



AUSTRALIA DAY

Another wonderful day at the Club. With 15 ½ tables and all members proudly joining in the celebrations. Tables of delicious food, drinks and friendly chatter filled the room, but eventually after consuming as much food as comfortably possible and with limited drinks - remembering we were there to play bridge – we commenced play.

Finalists on the day

- 1st N/S Jenny Tedeschi & Margaret McRobbie
2nd N/S Bente Hanson & Madge Myberg

- 1st E/W Alan Harper & Stephen Thyer
2nd E/W Robert Willemsen & David Kininmonth

Members enjoyed a chat while preparations were being made for the first round of bridge.



Liz McMillen, Judy Morland, Betty Roberts & Carolyn Dickie



Jean Rackham, Vicki Russell, Barbara Bibby & Jean-Paul Tedeschi



Lyn Shinnick, Sita Weggelaar, Eleanor Rowley & Val Parker



Phil Snook, Kris Nunn, Dawn Snook & Di Barker



Cora Brown, Mike Barker & Sandra Hoffman



Wendy Dodd, John Shinnick, Sherrill Duncan & Jim Steel



Lorraine Stivey, Jacquie Kier, Eleanor Bennett & Adele Silcox



Carole McMahon, Cherry Zamudio & Rob McMahon



Barbara Guelfi, Margaret McRobbie, Jenny Tedeschi & Audrey Totterdell



Wendy Harman, Stephen Thyer & Joanne Payne



John Offer, Robert Willemsen, Rosemary Offer & David Kininmonth



Kaye Prance & Alan Harper



Graham & Christine Scorer



Kerry Elliman & Carole Littlechild

19 Paddies go to the cinema, the ticket lady asks "Why so many of you?"
Mick replies, "The film said 18 or over." (The Irish **must** get a mention this month!)



Editor:
Julie Bechelli - Contact No: 9257 2205
Mob: 0408095280
bechelli1@bigpond.com

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

■ Alan Harper

Unauthorized information.

The directors recently discussed the problem of unauthorized information. The situation is frequently misunderstood and we sought clarification from National Director Matthew McManus who provided us with an excellent explanation which I have reproduced below for you information.

Example:

South, holding ♠xx, ♥A, ♦KQxxx, ♣KQxxx opened 2♥.

The bid was alerted and partner explained the bid promised both majors.

North then bid 4♥. South had made an incorrect bid. What can he do?

Authorised information is information a player receives from the calls which are made and the cards which are played, along with any information he may have arising from special agreements he has about the meanings of those calls and plays. Anything else constitutes unauthorised information.

When unauthorised information comes from the player's partner, the laws place some restrictions on what actions the player may take.

In the example, North's explanation was unauthorised information to South. It is not relevant whether the explanation is correct or not. Note that South getting that information was a perfectly normal facet of the game. Just because something is unauthorised information does not mean that there is anything inherently wrong about it. The issue only becomes relevant dependent on what the partner does with it.

In the current instance, South erroneously opened 2♥ - thinking he was showing the minors. When North said that it showed the majors, that was the unauthorised information - even though that was the correct explanation. South is deemed to have been woken up to his error by the unauthorized information. He knows that he and his partner are on different wavelengths.

South's responsibility is to act as if his partner had described his bid exactly as it is in his hand.

So, IF North had said that 2H showed both minors and had then bid 4H anyway, what would South have done? He has the ace of trumps - much more than partner might expect when he had shown both minors. He should be happy to play 4H. So South's correct action is to pass.

It is often difficult to get players to appreciate their responsibilities - that is, to act as if partner had described the meaning of their bid exactly as matches their hand. Which member of the partnership is right does not matter. **They know that partner and they are at cross purposes, but they only know this because of the unauthorised information.** This is something the laws prohibit them from using in deciding on what action to take.

Our annual Congress held on 17th & 18th March was once again a resounding success. Accolades go to the Convenor, the many people involved in the preparations, as well as our Club members and visitors who played diligently throughout the weekend.

Swiss Pairs:1st Gerry Daly & Viv Woods - President, Rob McMahon



2nd Hugh Probert & Steven Rogoysky
Photo not available

3rd David Schokman & Cynthia Belonogoff
Photo not available

Best Kalamunda Swiss Pair
Gordon Brown & Sheila Pryce



Best Kalamunda Team Stephen Thyer, Joseph Gaudet, Peter Clarke & Joanne Payne



Winning Teams

1st: Gerry Daly, Marie-France Merven, Nigel Dutton & Viv Woods



2nd David Schokman, David Matthews, Val Biltoft & Cynthia Belonogoff



The next story is on the life and interests of Eleanor Bennett who joined our club for some recreation after a life as a botanist. Enjoy her story.

A BOTANIST'S LIFE

■ Eleanor Bennett



I grew up in Cottesloe on the boundary with Swanbourne where there were still several undeveloped blocks. As a child I would collect some flowers, press them between newspapers and then put them under the family Bible to dry. I would then look them up in Mrs. Pelloe's book, *Wildflowers of Western Australia* to find their name. So, it was no wonder that I graduated with an Honours degree in Botany from UWA. In my final year at Uni when I was sitting my DipEd exams I saw a job advertised for a botanist at the Western Australian Herbarium. I applied and was successful but had to wait until after Easter to take up the position, after teaching for 3 months at Northam Senior High School, which was where I met my husband.

At the Herbarium I had a marvelous director, as the first job I undertook required me to mount collections made by the early botanists in Western Australia, including James Drummond. Later I progressed to naming the extensive, unmounted historical collections at the Herbarium. My job was to identify plants brought in by the public, including poison plants by farmers, who would always tell me they wanted to see a botanist – (there were only 2 professional women on the staff at the Ag Department when I started). I also accompanied some experienced botanists from interstate and overseas on collecting trips for the plants they were studying. My greatest trip was in 1967 when I accompanied botanists from Adelaide, Darwin and Alice Springs on a trip through the Kimberley. We set off from Wyndham and followed an indistinct track and phone line to meet with the Gibb River Road. The sunsets, waterfalls and billabongs were untouched and absolutely beautiful. I also undertook research on different genera.

Two months before our son was due I was required to leave work. I did no further paid botanical work until after our daughter was born, when I was given part-time work assisting Professor Grieve with the update of *How to Know Western Australian Wildflowers*. Later I lectured to horticulture students at Bentley Tech. On a field trip with them a new species was located which I named *Bentleya spinescens*, which the tech adopted as their plant.

In 1979 my husband was promoted to Principal at Ravensthorpe District High School where I decided to undertake research in the Ravensthorpe Ranges towards my PhD.

When I returned to Perth in 1982 I was given a part-time position at the Western Australian Herbarium which eventually became full-time to assist with the writing of the Flora of the

Perth Region. In spring of 1984 the Director of Kings Park and Botanic Garden seconded me to assist with the Wildflower Festival. In 1985 that became a permanent position. Here I was responsible for naming all the plants in the Botanic Garden, all plants collected by the seed collector and any other Kings Park staff as well as organising the exhibitors and layout of the Display Tent at the annual Wildflower Festival. I was also responsible for the education of the Guides and became heavily involved with that group of volunteers. I still had time for research and wrote the genus *Conospermum* (Smoke Bushes) for the Flora of Australia.

In 1995 I saw a position advertised for an experienced botanist with a consulting firm. The first week I was with that company I was asked to check some plants collected by staff in the Goldfields. One of the collections was *Hemigena exilis* which was a species listed as “presumed extinct”. As it occurred in an area where the company wanted to mine extensive searches were undertaken and this species was found to be quite widespread. That was the start of what I would consider my most enjoyable working experience. I stayed 3 years with that firm before setting up my own consulting business in 2000.



I always said I saw the State at someone else's expense as I was contracted to do work on private land or leases to which the general public had no access. A botanical survey typically required a detailed description and mapping of the vegetation structure, vegetation condition; a list of all species observed including weeds and the locations of any Rare or Priority Flora. During my consulting life I extended the range of several Declared Rare and Priority Flora as well as locating several new species, some of which I described but most I gave to researchers of that genus to describe. I even had to survey a rare moss that grew on the trunks of *Zamias*. My greatest surprise was locating a new spider orchid as I thought with so many people interested in orchids there could be no new ones around.

I was contracted to do work throughout the state from the Kimberley and into the Northern Territory in the north, to the Nullarbor in the east, metropolitan Perth, southwest and the south coast in the south. A lot of the large jobs were for mining companies, property developers, Water Corporation and main roads but there were occasions where a small land holder would decide to subdivide their land. Sometimes it was upsetting to think that excellent bush would be bulldozed other times I wondered why I had to do the work as the land was so degraded, but it is a requirement of any development that a flora survey as well as several other surveys be undertaken. My work only allowed me to state what was present at the site as the relevant Government Departments decided whether the site could be developed. So it was essential that my reports were detailed.

I did not employ staff other than my husband who retired from teaching in 2000 to assist me. When I was awarded large projects, I would subcontract in other botanists. For 6 years I was awarded a contract where I had a team of 8 botanists undertaking the work. One contract which I really enjoyed was surveying several Shire of Kalamunda reserves. I found it very interesting to see the areas of remnant vegetation we have in our Shire.



Although I enjoyed my work there were several draw backs, the greatest of which was ticks. Every field trip typically required the removal of ticks, some as small as pin heads, others up to the size of a pea seed. I was often asked about snakes. When working in the bush you are aware they could be there but I only saw about 8 in all the years, most slithered away when you were near. I always regretted I did not stop to take a photo of a snake curled up beside the track but all I could think of was to get away! It was a BIG dugite. The other was the weather. When you get soaked one day and your shoes are sodden it is not much fun to waken the next morning to pouring rain knowing you have to go out into it to get the work done (as shown in the photo of one my assistant botanists at the end of a 2 hour transect). Thank goodness for water prof paper! Sometimes the vegetation was very thick making walking though it very trying, other times it was under water, up and over the height of your gum boots

However, I consider myself lucky to have had a very interesting and enjoyable career, spanning my life since university and finally hanging up my boots at the end of 2017. I have described and named several new species, mainly asociated with my research. Although I do not agree with plants being named after people I have had 3 named after me, the most recent being *Hybanthus bennettiae* from the Kimberley.



Bentleya spinescens is a prickly shrub 20cm high by 20cm wide, with the cream flowers occurring at the base.

Hybanthus bennettiae is an annual herb with orange flowers. It is one of the native violets.



BRIDGE ETIQUETTE



BIDDING BOXES: Bidding boxes were introduced in the game to reduce the possibility of information being communicated between partners by voice intonation or other mannerisms such as eye contact or the way a bid is written on a bidding slip. When using a bidding box try to decide what your bid is going to be before reaching for or touching cards in the bidding box. An extreme example of this impropriety is when you say touch a 2♥ card and then pull out a pass card. After the auction ends, leave all bids on the table until the opening lead is made. This is to ensure the defenders are able to review the auction and to ask any questions prior to the commencement of play. The bids may then be returned to the box.

ASKING FOR EXPLANATIONS AND NOT BIDDING: Do not ask what a bid means unless you are intending to bid. Asking for explanation then passing could be construed as passing unauthorised information to one's partner. At the end of the auction you can ask the opponents for an explanation of the bidding.

Ron Klinger has some sound advice on sacrifice bids. The **Rule 5 over 5** is worthwhile considering and Ron says:

When the bidding has reached the 5-level in a competitive auction, it is usually better to defend than to bid on. Suppose the bidding has started:

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
1♥	1♠	3♥	3♠
4♥	4♠	5♥	Pass
Pass	?		

What action should North take?

If you are the weaker side and your sacrificial 4♠ has pushed them to the 5 level, be satisfied with that. Perhaps you can defeat them when they would have succeeded one level lower. That is your profit for having pushed them one higher. Bid 5♠ and your good work might be completely undone.

If you are the stronger side, it is normally better to accept the penalty than to bid higher and risk defeat. Of course, if you are the stronger side, you will double their sacrifice. To bid 5-over-5 you need to be almost certain that your contract will succeed, in other words, that your side is close to making a slam.

The more balanced your hand, the less attractive it is to push higher. If you have high cards in their suit, I strongly suggest defending. A void in their suit, or even a singleton, is one factor in favour of bidding on. Likewise, holding four cards in their suit would strongly suggest that partner has a singleton or void. The worst holding with which to bid more is a useless doubleton in their suit.

If unable to tell which side has the greater strength, definitely defend but you do not need to double. On many occasions neither side can succeed at the 5 level. You might well have been beaten at the 4 level.

Murphy says to Paddy,
"What ya talkin into an envelope for?"
Paddy replies. "I'm sending a voicemail ya fool!"

Our annual congress held on 17th & 18th March was once again a resounding success. Accolades go to the many people who worked hard behind the scenes to make the Congress happen. Thanks to John Shinnick and his team for tidying up the outside area; to Carole Littlechild, Kerry Elliman and Jean-Paul Tedeschi for preparing lunches and snacks, and to the members who contributed the really delicious food. And also to Jean-Paul for providing all the paperwork and handouts for the sessions.



KALAMUNDA DISTRICT BRIDGE CLUB SPONSORS

Thank you for your support!! We are truly grateful!





KALAMUNDA
HOTEL

43 Railway Road, Kalamunda, WA, 6076

